hospitals/healthcare centres identified, if any, for accreditation and the steps taken to suitably ease the visa regime for the foreign tourists seeking medical treatments; and

(c) the results of any survey conducted to assess the additional revenue likely to be generated through the medical tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Tourism have formed a Task Force, headed by Secretary (Health) and senior officials of the concerned Ministries and experts in the medical field, with a view to promoting India as a health Destination for persons across the globe so as to gainfully utilize the health care expertise and infrastructure available in the country. It has also been decided to promote and market India as a Healthcare destination through collaterals/print/electronic and internet media under the Ministry of Tourism's "Incredible India Campaign".

Indian healthcare Federation in association with CII on Ministry of Tourism's pursuation has after elaborate due diligence prepared a guide on select Indian cities and corresponding hospitals for promotion in Health Tourism. Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs has introduced a new category of "Medical Visa" ('M'-Visa), which can be given for specific period to foreign tourists coming to India for medical treatment.

(c) No such survey has been conducted in this regard.

Financial assistance for the Madhav National Park, Madhya Pradesh

†1714. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sought financial assistance for the Madhav National Park under tourism development scheme;

(b) if so, the amount allocated during the year 2005-06 under the scheme; and

(c) if not, by when the said amount will be released?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Eco-tourism

†1715. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the concept of Eco-tourism;

(b) the details of the schemes meant for development of eco-tourism in Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh, State-wise;

(c) whether all the above three State Governments have sent their schemes regarding development of eco-tourism in their respective States to the Central Government for approval; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the said schemes are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The National Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines has already been laid down by Ministry of Tourism which aim to preserve, retain and enrich natural resources and to ensure regulated growth of Eco-Tourism with it's positive impacts on environmental protection and community development.

(b) The Ministry of Tourism extends Central financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourism including Eco-Tourism. These projects are sanctioned under the "Destination Development" and "Integrated Development of Tourism Circuit" schemes and details of the schemes approved during 10th Five Year Plan are placed in the Statement. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) The projects prioritized for the year 2005-06 are as under:

Himachal Pradesh	
Destination:	1. Shimla/Tohnoo/Changsil
Circuits:	1. Mandi Circuit
	2. Chamba Circuit

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.